REMARKS

Claims 1-15 and 17-53 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 1, 22, 35, 42, and 49 are independent claims. Some of the recitations of dependent claim 16 have been added to independent claim 1, and claim 16 has been canceled.

As a preliminary matter, Applicants have corrected a typographical error in claims 22, 36, and 43.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 22-53 are allowed and for indicating that claims 3, 4, and 16 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the recitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants hold in abeyance the rewriting of claims 3 and 4 until the Examiner has had a chance to consider the remarks below with respect to amended independent claim 1, which has been amended to include some of the recitations of claim 16.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and §103

Claims 1, 5-15, 19, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being allegedly anticipated by Wulff (US 6,392,505). Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Wulff in view of Hagstrom et al. (US 6,215,316). Claims 18 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly obvious in view of Wullf.

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With respect to amended independent claim 1, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the rejection at least because Wulff does not disclose all of the claim recitations. For example, Wulff does not teach or suggest the claimed multiplexer having a common "multiple half-wavelength resonator" coupled to the common port.

Although Wulff discloses a multiple cavity filter in which "transmit and receive RF signals are coupled to the transmit and receive sections of the multi-cavity resonator by the resonant input/output cavity 37", Wullf does not teach or suggest a common resonator that is a "multiple half-wavelength resonator".

Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the rejection of claim 1, and respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the rejection of dependent claims 5-15, and 18-21 at least because of their dependency from claim 1.

In addition, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the rejection of dependent claims at least because of their dependency from claim 1 and because Hagstrom (which was cited by the Examiner in an attempt to show "coupling apertures positioned at the peaks of the magnetic field") does not cure the deficiencies in Wulff discussed above.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 Appln. No. 09/514,879 Docket No. A8139

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: March 19, 2004